338 SIMILE ZOLA, NOVELIST AND EEFOEMEB

applies to them as to others, and it is perhaps pity it is not enforced against them. But the lawyers at least they said to Yizetelly: " It is useless to proceed against an English bishop. There is so much this country that you would never obtain a verdict against him, however complete your evidence might be." As for Bishop Perowne of Worcester he was answered in "The Speaker" by its contributor, Mr. A. T. Ouiller-Couch, as well as by sundry correspondents, one pointed out that this chartered slanderer " had not much SO evidence back his to insinuations and assertions would wrap round a mustard seed." Mr. "Welldon was dealt with at length and very ably by Mr, Quiller-Couch. controversy in "The Speaker" being prolonged until the latter part of November, Ernest Vizetelly was first. unaware of it, but a friend who, having little acquaintance with literature, read that Liberal weekly chiefly poits litical articles, said to him one day: "You ought see 'The Speaker/ There's a lawyer who is defending Zola and your father in it very vigorously. He is kind man your father ought to have had as counsel trial" at "A lawyer?" Yizetelly replied, "why, what is his name?" "Oh! he only appends his initials CA* T.1 to his articles: but I felt interested, and so I consulted the

law-list at my club. He's a Queen's counsel, by the way; only Queen's counsel whose initials are A. T^* is the Hon. Alfred Thesiger, so he undoubtedly is the man/1 truth, however, had suddenly dawned on Vizetelly, who began to laugh as he answered: " The initials **A*** you say; but the writer puts Q. C* after does them, ¹ See notably the issues of October 14 and 28, 1903*